

Amendment to the Claims

1. (currently amended) An ionomer/polyamide alloy blend having improved flow properties comprising for every one hundred parts by weight of ionomer/polyamide alloy blend:
- (i) from one to twenty parts by weight low molecular weight copolymer of ethylene and at least one other comonomer selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid, methacrylic acid and mixtures thereof, wherein said low molecular weight copolymer has a melt index (ASTM D1238) of greater than 350 dg/min and an acrylic acid and methacrylic acid combined comonomer content of at least 5 weight percent; and optionally
  - (ii) up to twenty parts per weight of one or more additives selected from the group consisting of very low density polyethylene (VLDPE), maleic anhydride grafted VLDPE, ethylene propylene (EPR) rubber, maleic anhydride grafted EPR, ethylene propylene diene monomer (EPDM) rubber, maleic anhydride grafted EPDM and mixtures thereof.
2. (currently amended) An ionomer/polyamide alloy blend of Claim 1 wherein said low molecular weight copolymer of ethylene and at least one other comonomer has a melt index of at least 900 dg/min.
3. (currently amended) An ionomer/polyamide alloy blend of Claim 1 wherein said very molecular weight copolymer of ethylene and at least one other comonomer has an acrylic acid and methacrylic acid combined comonomer content of at least 9 weight percent.
4. (currently amended) A method of reducing the viscosity of an ionomer/polyamide alloy blend without significantly degrading low temperature impact resistance comprising the steps of blending for every one hundred parts by weight of ionomer/polyamide alloy blend
- (i) from one to twenty parts by weight low molecular weight copolymer of ethylene and at least one other comonomer selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid, methacrylic acid and mixtures thereof, wherein said low molecular weight copolymer has a melt index (ASTM D1238) of greater than 350 dg/min and an acrylic acid and methacrylic acid combined comonomer content of at least 5 weight percent; and optionally

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(ii) up to twenty parts per weight of one or more additives selected from the group consisting of very low density polyethylene (VLDPE), maleic anhydride grafted VLDPE, ethylene propylene (EPR) rubber, maleic anhydride grafted EPR, ethylene propylene diene monomer rubber (EPDM), maleic anhydride grafted EPDM, and mixtures thereof.

5. (original) A method of Claim 4 wherein said low molecular weight copolymer of ethylene and at least one other comonomer has a melt index of at least 900 dg/min.

6. (original) A method of Claim 4 wherein said low molecular weight copolymer of ethylene and at least one other comonomer has an acrylic acid and methacrylic acid combined comonomer content of at least 9 weight percent.

7. (currently amended) A metallic pigmented ionomer/polyamide alloy blend having improved impact properties comprising for every one hundred parts by weight of ionomer/polyamide alloy blend: from 2.5 up to twenty parts per weight of one or more additives selected from the group consisting of very low density polyethylene (VLDPE), maleic anhydride grafted VLDPE, ethylene propylene (EPR) rubber, maleic anhydride grafted EPR, ethylene propylene diene monomer (EPDM) rubber, maleic anhydride grafted EPDM and mixtures thereof.

8. (currently amended) A metallic pigmented ionomer/polyamide alloy blend of Claim 7 wherein said additive is a maleic anhydride grafted EPDM.

9. (currently amended) A method of restoring impact resistance of a metallic pigmented ionomer/polyamide alloy blend comprising the step of blending for every one hundred parts by weight of a metallic pigmented ionomer/polyamide alloy blend from 2.5 up to twenty parts per weight of one or more additives selected from the group consisting of very low density polyethylene (VLDPE), maleic anhydride grafted VLDPE, ethylene propylene (EPR) rubber, maleic anhydride grafted EPR, ethylene propylene diene monomer rubber (EPDM), maleic anhydride grafted EPDM, and mixtures thereof.

10. (original) A method of Claim 9 wherein said additive is a maleic anhydride grafted EPDM.